

18 March 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Deputy Director for Intelligence  
SUBJECT : The New Look in External Research:  
Significance of the USC/FAR

References : a. Irwin Memo to DCI, of 4 March  
1971 re USC/FAR  
b. Kissinger Memo of 9 February  
1971 -- NSDM-98 -- on Coordina-  
tion of Foreign Affairs Research  
Sponsored by the Federal Govern-  
ment.

1. In short, the new look in External Research is a carry-on (a) from previous CIA participation in ER and its changing organization; and (b) from previous CIA concurrences in Ray Cline's efforts to up-grade ER, and in a new, Observer, status for CIA. The new look gives Ray and State some -- but not all -- of what they wanted in the way of improving the USG's fairly dreary operation. The new look does not call for any radical new departures in CIA participation or commitments, and is overall a modest improvement.

2. I am not too sanguine about the new USC/FAR bringing real improvement in the USG's ER effort; we will simply have to wait and see. The USC/FAR's official status falls short of the IG level sought by Ray and most of his Ad Hoc Committee members, even though their organizational plan and terms of reference

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were approved by the NSC. On balance this outcome represents a victory for State over DOD, but their differences on leadership in the field of research coordination probably remain strong. DOD dissented from the Committee's recommendation for IG status; DOD sought (unsuccessfully) to weight the new membership roster in its favor, and (also unsuccessfully) to prevent the key post of Executive Secretary in the new organization from falling permanently to State. In its dissent, DOD also objected to the heavy amount of detailed annual reporting now to be required on the contract research plans and projects of all Members, including Observers.

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3. For the CIA there will continue to be very little in this line (the social and behavioral sciences) to report.

4. The mention of reporting on in-house research in NSDM-98 (para. 3, last line) is not repeated in the Irwin memo, and in any event does not presage any new obligations on the CIA.

5. I shall be pleased to represent CIA's Observer interest, and assume that such duties will not be horribly taxing. As before, [redacted] of this office will assist in these endeavors.

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Chief, DD/I Special Research Staff

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